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| CONTROL NO. | FILING DATE | PATENT IN REEXAMINATION | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 95000020 & 90006495 | 05/29/03 | 6317592 | |

William H. Wright
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Midland Building
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EXAMINER

Charles R. Craver

ART UNIT

PAPER

3992

DATE MAILED:

02/01/06

**INTER PARTES REEXAMINATION
COMMUNICATION**

BELOW/ATTACHED YOU WILL FIND A COMMUNICATION FROM THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE OFFICIAL(S) IN CHARGE OF THE PRESENT REEXAMINATION PROCEEDING.

All correspondence relating to this *inter partes* reexamination proceeding should be directed to the **Central Reexamination Unit** at the mail, FAX, or hand-carry addresses given at the end of this communication.



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(THIRD PARTY REQUESTER'S CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS)

Novak Druce & Quigg LLP
1300 Eye Street NW
Suite 400, East Tower
Washington DC 20005

**Transmittal of Communication to Third Party Requester
Inter Partes Reexamination**

REEXAMINATION CONTROL NUMBER 95/000020; 90/006495

PATENT NUMBER 6,317,592.

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3900.

ART UNIT 3992.

Enclosed is a copy of the latest communication from the United States Patent and Trademark Office in the above-identified reexamination proceeding. 37 CFR 1.903.

Prior to the filing of a Notice of Appeal, each time the patent owner responds to this communication, the third party requester of the *inter partes* reexamination may once file written comments within a period of 30 days from the date of service of the patent owner's response. This 30-day time period is statutory (35 U.S.C. 314(b)(2)), and, as such, it cannot be extended. See also 37 CFR 1.947.

If an *ex parte* reexamination has been merged with the *inter partes* reexamination, no responsive submission by any *ex parte* third party requester is permitted.

All correspondence relating to this *inter partes* reexamination proceeding should be directed to the **Central Reexamination Unit** at the mail, FAX, or hand-carry addresses given at the end of the communication enclosed with this transmittal.

**ACTION CLOSING PROSECUTION
(37 CFR 1.949)**

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------|
| Control No. | Patent Under Reexamination | |
| 95/000,020 | 90/006495 | 6317592 |
| Examiner | Art Unit | |
| Charles R. Craver | 3992 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address. --

Responsive to the communication(s) filed by:

Patent Owner on 28 December 2005

Third Party(ies) on 10 January 2006

Patent owner may once file a submission under 37 CFR 1.951(a) within 1 month(s) from the mailing date of this Office action. Where a submission is filed, third party requester may file responsive comments under 37 CFR 1.951(b) within 30-days (not extendable- 35 U.S.C. § 314(b)(2)) from the date of service of the initial submission on the requester. **Appeal cannot be taken from this action.** Appeal can only be taken from a Right of Appeal Notice under 37 CFR 1.953.

All correspondence relating to this inter partes reexamination proceeding should be directed to the **Central Reexamination Unit** at the mail, FAX, or hand-carry addresses given at the end of this Office action.

PART I. THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENT(S) ARE PART OF THIS ACTION:

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited by Examiner, PTO-892
2. ☒ Information Disclosure Citation, PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08
3. ☐ _____

PART II. SUMMARY OF ACTION:

- 1a. ☒ Claims 1-764 are subject to reexamination.
- 1b. ☐ Claims _____ are not subject to reexamination.
2. ☐ Claims _____ have been canceled.
3. ☐ Claims _____ are confirmed. [Unamended patent claims]
4. ☐ Claims _____ are patentable. [Amended or new claims]
5. ☒ Claims 1-764 are rejected.
6. ☐ Claims _____ are objected to.
7. ☒ The drawings filed on 6 December 1999 ☒ are acceptable ☐ are not acceptable.
8. ☐ The drawing correction request filed on _____ is: ☐ approved. ☐ disapproved.
9. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of the claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. 119 (a)-(d). The certified copy has:
 - ☐ been received. ☐ not been received. ☐ been filed in Application/Control No _____
10. ☐ Other _____